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(54) Title: DRUG-CONTAINING CHLOROFLUOROCARBON AEROSOL PROPELLENT FORMULATIONS

(57) Abstract

Complete dissolution of a wide range of drugs in chlorofluorocarbon aerosol propellents is achieved by the presence of glycerol phosphatides, preferably phosphatidylcholine.

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DRUG-CONTAINING CHLOROFUOROCARBON AEROSOL
PROPELLENT FORMULATIONS

- 5 This invention relates to medicinal aerosol formulations and in particular to drug-containing chlorofluorocarbon aerosol propellant formulations for topical or for endopulmonary or nasal inhalation administration.
- 10 Medicinal aerosol formulations generally contain a mixture of chlorofluorocarbons, e.g. trichloromonofluoromethane (Propellant 11), dichlorotetrafluoroethane (Propellant 114) and dichlorodifluoromethane (Propellant 12). The drug is
- 15 either present as a solution in the aerosol formulation or as a dispersion of fine particles. For endopulmonary or nasal inhalation, particles predominantly in the size range 2 to 5 microns are required.
- 20 There are very few drugs which can be solubilised in chlorofluorocarbon aerosol propellents alone. Generally, it is necessary to utilise a polar co-solvent, such as ethanol, in order to achieve solubilisation of the drug. However, the resulting
- 25 solutions can be chemically unstable due to reaction between the co-solvent and the drug or the co-solvent and the propellant system.
- Furthermore, when large proportions of co-solvent, e.g. ethanol, are required to achieve
- 30 dissolution of the drug, the resulting spray droplet size may be too large for certain applications, in particular, endopulmonary inhalation therapy.

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Suspension of drug in aerosol propellents is achieved by pulverising the drug into the desired particle size range and thereafter suspending the particles in propellents with the aid of a surfactant.

- 5 The disadvantages of this technique are that drug particles may agglomerate, grow in size or become adsorbed onto the surface of the container in which the formulations are stored prior to dispensing. Furthermore, it is necessary to agitate the product
10 prior to use in order to ensure dispersion of the formulation and uniformity of dosage.

The present invention provides an alternative technique for incorporating drugs into chlorofluoro-carbon aerosol propellents.

- 15 Therefore according to the invention there is provided an aerosol formulation comprising one or more chlorofluorocarbon aerosol propellents, a glycerol phosphatide and a drug, the drug being dissolved in the composition.

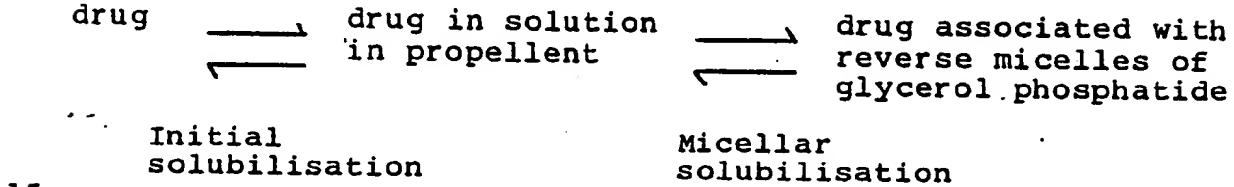
- 20 The glycerol phosphatide may be any one of the following compounds; phosphatidylcholine (lecithin), phosphatidylethanolamine (cephalin), phosphatidyl-inositol, phosphatidylserine, diphosphatidylglycerol or phosphatidic acid.

- 25 Surprisingly it has been found that glycerol phosphatides cause complete dissolution of certain drugs in chlorofluorocarbon propellents.

- Phosphatidylcholine (lecithin) has been utilised as a surfactant in aerosol formulations containing suspended
30 drug particles but heretofore it has not been appreciated that this particular compound can enhance the solubility of certain drugs in chlorofluorocarbon propellents.

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It has been found that drugs having at least very slight solubility in chlorofluorocarbon propellents will exhibit an enhanced solubility in the chlorofluorocarbon propellant in the presence of 5 glycerol phosphatide. It is postulated that this enhanced solubility is attributable to drug in true solution becoming associated with reverse micelles of the glycerol phosphatide which allows further drug to dissolve in the propellant. Thus, the solubilisation 10 process is believed to be as follows:



15

Whilst the compositions of the invention appear visibly to be true solutions since there is no dispersed phase apparent, they are more correctly micellar solutions.

The formulations of the invention may be
20 prepared by forming a concentrate of glycerol
phosphatide with a drug and Propellant 11. The
concentrate may be formed by simple admixture with
agitation and optionally under heating, e.g. 50°C,
until complete dissolution of the drug has been
25 attained. The concentrate may then be mixed with the
remainder of the propellant formulation, e.g.
Propellents 12 and 114.

.. Phosphatidylcholine is the most suitable glycerol phosphatide to use in view of its low toxicity and high drug solubilising efficacy. Phosphatidyl-choline purified from soya bean lecithin is readily available commercially and suitable grades include Epikuron 200 (Lucas-Meyer) and Lipoid S100

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(Lipoid KG). Both products have a phosphatidylcholine content in excess of 95%

It has been found that certain drugs which are practically insoluble in chlorofluorocarbon propellents 5 alone can be solubilised in the propellant/glycerol phosphatide system by the addition of a small amount of a co-solvent such as ethanol.

It is postulated that the co-solvent enhances the initial solubilisation step of the solubilisation 10 process. Certain commercially available forms of lecithin, in addition to their phosphatidylcholine content, contain ethanol as an impurity. With compounds of this type, e.g. Lipoid S45, the ethanol may likewise enhance drug solubilisation.

15 Suitable drugs for use in the invention comprise those compounds which exhibit at least a very slight solubility in a chlorofluorocarbon propellant. In general, the drug will be in the form of an ester, base or free alcohol. Highly polar ionic salts of 20 drugs are less suitable since it may not be possible to solubilise the drug in sufficient quantity even with the presence of a small amount of co-solvent.

Exemplary drugs include steroids, e.g. beclomethasone dipropionate, betamethasone 25 dipropionate, acetate, valerate and free alcohol. Other drugs include salbutamol base, atropine base, prednisolone, formoterol base, hydrochloride, fumarate and hemisulphate.

Further suitable drugs for use with the 30 invention include the following:

Anorectics: e.g. benzphetamine hydrochloride
chlorphentermine hydrochloride

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- Anti-depressents: e.g. amitriptyline hydrochloride
imipramine hydrochloride
- Anti-hypertensive agents: e.g. clonidine hydrochloride
- Anti-neoplastic agents: e.g. actinomycin C
- 5 Anti-cholinergic agents: atropine base
- Dopaminergic agents: e.g. bromocriptine mesylate
- Narcotic analgesics: e.g. buprenorphine hydrochloride
- Beta-adrenergic blocking agents: e.g. propranolol
hydrochloride
- 10 Corticosteroids: e.g. lacicortone, hydrocortisone,
fluocinolone acetonide,
triamcinolone acetonide
- Prostaglandins: e.g. dinoprost trometamol
- Sympathomimetics: e.g. xylometazoline hydrochloride
- 15 Tranquillisers: e.g. diazepam, lorazepam
- Vitamins: e.g. folic acid, nicotinamide
- Brochodilators: e.g. clenbuterol hydrochloride
bitolterol mesylate
- Sex hormones: e.g. ethinyloestradiol, levonorgestrel.
- 20 The ratio of drug : glycerol phosphatide :
cosolvent (if required) : chloro-fluorocarbon
propellant depends upon a number of criteria:
- 1) The concentration of drug required in the final
formulation.
- 25 2) The solubility of glycerol phosphatide in the
particular blend of chlorofluorocarbon
propellents.
- 3) The droplet size and evaporation characteristics
required of the emitted spray. For inhalation
purposes the optimum levels of glycerol
phosphatide and Propellant 11 will be the
minimum permissible levels to achieve a stable
solution. Higher levels of these components
- 30

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result in an increase in the droplet size of the spray upon dispensing due to a lowering of the volatility of the formulation.

- 4) Solubility of the drug in the propellents or
5 propellant/co-solvent.

A wide range of propellents may be used in the formulations of the invention including:

- Propellant 11 trichloromonofluoromethane
Propellant 12 dichlorodifluoromethane
10 Propellant 13 monochlorotrifluoromethane
Propellant 21 dichloromonofluoromethane
Propellant 22 monochlorodifluoromethane
Propellant 113 trichlorotrifluoroethane
Propellant 114 dichlorotetrafluoroethane
15 Propellant 115 monochloropentafluoroethane
Propellant 500 azet trope - 73.8% dichlorodifluoromethane
and 26.2% 1,1-difluoroethane

In addition to chlorofluorocarbon aerosol propellant the formulations may contain other
20 propellents, e.g. DME (dimethylether).

In general, the compositions comprising drug, glycerol phosphatide and propellant may be made within the following general weight ratios:

- drug : glycerol phosphatide
25 1 to 500 : 100
glycerol phosphatide : propellant
0.01 to 20 : 100

For many drugs the weight ratio of drug:glycerol phosphatide will generally be in the range 1 to 30:100
30 and that of glycerol phosphatide:propellant in the range 0.01 to 10:100. Preferably the weight ratio of drug:glycerol phosphatide will be in the range 2 to 10:100 and that of glycerol phosphatide:propellant in the range 0.01 to 3:100.

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The invention will now be illustrated by the following Examples.

Example 1

	<u>mg/ml</u>
(a) beclomethasone dipropionate	1
(b) Epikuron 200	14
(c) Propellant 11	270
10 (d) Propellant 12	<u>1080</u>
	<u>1365</u>

The formulation was prepared by mixing components (a) to (c) under stirring for approximately 15 10 minutes at a temperature of 25°C. Thereafter the concentrate was mixed with component (d) at a temperature appropriate to the filling technique, generally in the range -60 to +20°C. The resulting formulation was a stable solution.

20

Example 2

Solubilisation of salbutamol base

	<u>mg/ml</u>
(a) salbutamol base	2
25 (b) Epikuron 200	14
(c) Propellant 11	339
(d) Propellant 12	<u>1018</u>
	<u>1373</u>

30

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The formulation was prepared as in Example 1 except that solubilisation required stirring for 30 minutes at a temperature of 50°C. A stable solution was formed.

5

Example 3

Solubilisation of atropine base

	<u>mg/ml</u>
(a) atropine base	1
(b) Epikuron 200	4
(c) Propellant 11	270
(d) Propellant 12	<u>1080</u>
	<u>1355</u>

15

The formulation was prepared as in Example 1 and resulted in a stable solution.

Example 4

20

A series of stable formulations were prepared suitable for use as concentrates in the preparation of aerosol formulations. Each concentrate comprised the following components in the weight ratio of drug : Epikuron 200 : Propellant 11 of 1:14:270. The 25 drugs used were prednisolone, betamethasone acetate, betamethasone valerate, betamethasone dipropionate and betamethasone free alcohol.

30

Solubilisation of formoterol compounds

The following formulations were prepared:

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	(i)		<u>mg/ml</u>
		formoterol hydrochloride	0.2000
		ascorbyl palmitate	0.2000
		Epikuron 200	2.7000
5		Propellant 11	341.4125
		Propellant 12	<u>1024.2375</u>
			<u>1368.7500</u>
	(ii)		<u>mg/ml</u>
10		formoterol hydrochloride	0.2400
		vitamin E acetate	2.7000
		Epikuron 200	2.7000
		Propellant 11	339.8400
		Propellant 12	<u>1019.5200</u>
15			<u>1365.0000</u>
	(iii)		<u>mg/ml</u>
		formoterol hydrochloride	0.1800
		Lipoid S45 Lecithin	2.7000
20		Propellant 11	202.0680
		Propellant 12	<u>1145.0520</u>
			<u>1350.0000</u>
	(iv)		<u>mg/ml</u>
25		formoterol base	0.1600
		Lipoid S45 Lecithin	2.7000
		Propellant 11	202.0710
		Propellant 12	<u>1145.0690</u>
			<u>1350.0000</u>

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(v)

		<u>mg/ml</u>
	formoterol hemisulphate	0.1600
	Lipoid S45 Lecithin	2.7000
	Propellant 11	202.0710
5	Propellant 12	<u>1145.0690</u>
		<u>1350.0000</u>

(vi)

		<u>mg/ml</u>
10	formoterol fumarate	0.2400
	vitamin E acetate	2.7000
	Epikuron 200	2.7000
	Propellant 11	339.8400
	Propellant 12	<u>1019.5200</u>
		<u>1365.0000</u>

15

(vii)

		<u>mg/ml</u>
	formoterol fumarate	0.2400
	Epikuron 200	2.7000
	Propellant 11	340.5150
20	Propellant 12	<u>1021.5450</u>
		<u>1365.0000</u>

Vitamin E acetate and ascorbyl palmitate were included as antioxidants and did not impair the physical characteristics of the solutions.

The formulations were prepared by mixing the drug, surfactant, Propellant 11 and antioxidant (when present) under stirring for up to 6 hours at a temperature of 45 to 50°C. Thereafter the resulting solution was mixed with Propellant 12 at a temperature appropriate to the filling method to produce a solution.

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Example 6

A series of stable formulations were prepared suitable for use as concentrates in the preparation of 5 aerosol formulations. Each concentrate comprised drug, Lipoid S100 and Propellant 11 in the weight ratio of 1:7:135. The drugs used were:

10 Diazepam
 Lorazepam
 propranolol hydrochloride
 hydrocortisone
 fluocinolone acetonide
 triamcinolone acetonide
15

Clear stable solutions resulted in all cases. When matching formulations were prepared omitting Lipoid S100 each drug remained in suspension.

20 Example 7
Use of co-solvent to aid solubilisation

A formulation was prepared consisting of xylometazoline hydrochloride, Lipoid S100 and 25 Propellant 11 in the weight ratio 1:7:135. A matching formulation was prepared in which the Lipoid S100 was omitted. After agitation and heating at 50°C for four hours a considerable amount of drug remained in suspension, in both formulations. Ethanol 4% by weight 30 was then added to both formulations. After 15 minutes the formulation containing Lipoid S100 was a clear solution. There was no apparent change in the formulation in which Lipoid S100 was omitted. This

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result indicates the efficiency of a small amount of co-solvent in promoting the initial solubilisation step of the phospholipid solubilisation process.

5

Example 8

Aerosol formulations containing Diazepam

The following formulations were prepared:

		<u>mg/ml</u>
10	(a) Diazepam	20
	Lipoid S100	7
	Propellant 11	370.5
	Propellant 12	864.5
		1262.0

15

		<u>mg/ml</u>
	(b) Diazepam	20
	Lipoid S100	7
	Propellant 11	264.3
20	DME	616.7
		908.0

The formulations were physically stable solutions.

25

Example 9

Use of Propellents 113 and 115 in solubilised formulations

The following formulation was prepared:

	<u>mg/ml</u>
30	Lorazepam
	1.87
	Lipoid S100
	13.09
	Propellant 113
	252.59

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Propellant 115	126.29
Propellant 22	884.06
	<u>1277.90</u>

5 Dissolution of the concentrate containing Lorazepam, Lipoid S100 and Propellant 113 was achieved by heating at 50°C for 10 minutes. Propellant 115 and Propellant 22 were then combined with the concentrate and a physically stable solution resulted.

10

Example 10

Use of Propellant 500 (Azeotrope) in solubilised formulation

15 The following formulation was prepared:

	<u>mg/ml</u>
Propranolol HCl	3.02
Lipoid S100	21.14
Propellant 11	407.65
20 Propellant 500	<u>951.19</u>
	<u>1383.00</u>

A physically stable solution formulation resulted.

25

Example 11

Solubilisation of bitolterol mesylate

The following formulations were prepared:

	<u>mg/ml</u>	<u>mg/ml</u>
30 bitolterol mesylate	4.00	8.00
Lipoid S100	10.00	20.00
Propellant 11	201.30	199.20
Propellant 12	<u>1140.70</u>	<u>1128.80</u>
	<u>1356.00</u>	<u>1356.00</u>

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Solubilisation occurred readily in the Propellant 11/
lecithin/drug concentrates at room temperature. Both
solution formulations were stable at -60°C enabling the
cold filling technique to be employed when preparing
5 pressurised dispensing packs.

Example 12

Solubilisation of Lacicortone

10 The following formulations were prepared:

	(a)	(b)
	<u>mg/ml</u>	<u>mg/ml</u>
Lacicortone	2.00	5.00
Lipoid S100	7.00	14.00
15 Propellant 11	271.20	408.60
Propellant 12	<u>1084.80</u>	<u>953.40</u>
	<u>1365.00</u>	<u>1381.00</u>

Solubilisation occurred readily in the Propellant 11/
20 lecithin/drug concentrates at room temperature.

Formulation (a) was stable at -60°C and Formulation (b)
was stable at -50°C enabling the cold filling technique
to be employed when preparing pressurised dispensing
packs.

25

Example 13

Use of glycerol phosphatides

The following formulations were prepared:

30	<u>parts by weight</u>
beclomethasone dipropionate	1
phosphatidyl serine	14
Propellant 11	270

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	beclomethasone dipropionate	1
	phosphatidyl ethanolamine	14
	Propellant 11	270
5	salbutamol base	1
	phosphatidyl serine	14
	Propellant 11	270
10	salbutamol base	1
	phosphatidyl ethanolamine	14
	Propellant 11	270

Each formulation was a stable clear solution suitable for use as a concentrate in the preparation of 15 aerosol formulations.

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CLAIMS:

1. An aerosol formulation comprising one or more chlorofluorocarbon aerosol propellents, glycerol phosphatide and a drug, the drug being dissolved in the composition.

5

2. A formulation as claimed in Claim 1, in which the glycerol phosphatide is selected from phosphatidylcholine, phosphatidylethanolamine, phosphatidylinositol, phosphatidylserine, 10 diphosphatidylglycerol, phosphatidic acid and mixtures thereof.

3. A formulation as claimed in Claim 2, in which the glycerol phosphatide is phosphatidylcholine.

15

4. A formulation as claimed in any preceding claim, in which the glycerol phosphatide is purified.

20

5. A formulation as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 4, which comprises Propellant 11, glycerol phosphatide and a drug.

25

6. A formulation as claimed in any preceding claim, in which the ratio of glycerol phosphatide to Propellant 11 is 0.01 to 20:100.

7. A formulation as claimed in any preceding claim, in which the ratio of glycerol phosphatide to Propellant 11 is 0.01 to 10:100.

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8. A formulation as claimed in any preceding claim, in which the ratio of glycerol phosphatide to Propellant 11 is 0.01 to 3:100.

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9. A formulation as claimed in any preceding claim, which comprises one or more of propellents selected from Propellents 11, 12, 13, 21, 22, 113, 114, 115 and 500.

5

10. A formulation as claimed in any preceding claim, in which the ratio of drug to glycerol phosphatide is 1 to 500:100.

10 11. A formulation as claimed in any preceding claim, in which the ratio of drug to glycerol phosphatide is 1 to 30:100.

12. A formulation as claimed in any preceding 15 claim, in which the ratio of drug to glycerol phosphatide is 2 to 10:100.

13. A formulation as claimed in any preceding claim, which additionally comprises a small amount of a 20 co-solvent to enhance the solubilisation process.

14. A formulation as claimed in any preceding claim, in which the drug is selected from beclomethasone dipropionate, betamethasone 25 dipropionate, acetate, valerate and base thereof, salbutamol base, atropine base and prednisolone.

15. A formulation as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 13, in which the drug is selected from formoterol 30 base, hydrochloride, hemisulphate and fumarate.

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16. A formulation as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 13, in which the drug is selected from diazepam, lorazepam, propranolol hydrochloride, hydrocortisone, fluocinolone acetonide, triamcinolone acetonide,
5 xylometazoline hydrochloride, bitolterol mesylate and lacicortone.
17. A pressurised aerosol pack filled with a formulation as claimed in any preceding claim.
10
18. A method of solubilising a drug having slight solubility in chlorofluorocarbon aerosol propellents which comprises mixing said drug in a chlorofluoro-carbon propellant in the presence of an effective
15 amount of a glycerol phosphatide.
19. A method as claimed in Claim 18, in which the glycerol phosphatide is selected from phosphatidylcholine, phosphatidylethanolamine,
20 phosphatidylinositol, phosphatidylserine, diphosphatidylglycerol and phosphatidic acid.
20. A method as claimed in Claim 18, in which the glycerol phosphatide is phosphatidylcholine
25
21. A method as claimed in any one of Claims 18 to 20, in which the glycerol phosphatide is purified.
22. A method as claimed in any one of Claims 18 to 30 19, which comprises Propellant 11, glycerol phosphatide and a drug and the admixture is conducted under stirring.

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23. A method as claimed in Claim 21, in which the ratio of glycerol phosphatide to Propellant 11 is 0.01 to 20:100.
- 5 24. A method as claimed in any one of Claims 19 to 21, which comprises one or more of propellents selected from Propellents 11, 12, 13, 21, 22, 113, 114, 115 and 500.
- 10 25. A method as claimed in any one of Claims 18 to 24, which additionally comprises a small amount of a co-solvent to enhance the solubilisation process.
- 15 26. A method as claimed in any one of Claims 18 to 25, in which the drug is selected from beclomethasone dipropionate, betamethasone dipropionate, acetate, valerate and base thereof, salbutamol base, atropine base, and prednisolone.
- 20 27. A method as claimed in any one of Claims 18 to 25, in which the drug is selected from formoterol base, hydrochloride, hemisulphate and fumarate.
- 25 28. A method as claimed in any one of Claims 18 to 25, in which the drug is selected from diazepam, lorazepam, propranolol hydrochloride, hydrocortisone, fluocinolone acetonide, triamcinolone acetonide, xylometazoline hydrochloride, bitolterol mesylate and lacicortone.
- 30 29. A process for solubilising a drug having slight solubility in chlorofluorocarbon aerosol propellant which comprises using an effective amount of glycerol phosphatide.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No PCT/GB 86/00001

I. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER (If several classification symbols apply, indicate all) ⁴

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both National Classification and IPC

IPC⁴ : A 61 K 9/72; A 61 K 9/12; A 61 K 47/00

II. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum Documentation Searched ⁷

Classification System	Classification Symbols
IPC⁴	A 61 K 9/00
	A 61 K 7/00
	A 61 K 47/00
	A 61 K 31/00

Documentation Searched other than Minimum Documentation
to the Extent that such Documents are included in the Fields Searched ⁸

III. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT*

Category ⁹	Citation of Document, ¹¹ with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages ¹²	Relevant to Claim No. ¹³
A	GB, A, 993702 (TAKEDA) 2 June 1965, see claims; page 1, lines 45-70; page 2, lines 3-45; example 1	1-13, 16-25, 28, 29
A	GB, A, 2001334 (FISONS) 31 January 1979, see claims	1-3, 14, 16
A	US, A, 3551558 (TAKEDA et al.) 29 December 1970, see claim	1-3
A	DE, A, 2802113 (SANDOZ) 26 July 1979, see examples 2, 6	17, 18

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IV. CERTIFICATION

Date of the Actual Completion of the International Search

17th March 1986

Date of Mailing of this International Search Report

10 APR 1986

International Searching Authority

EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE

Signature of Authorized Officer

M. VAN MOL

ANNEX TO THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT ON

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/GB 86/00001 (SA 11756)

This Annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on 02/04/86

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Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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US-A- 3551558	29/12/70	None	
DE-A- 2802113	26/07/79	None	